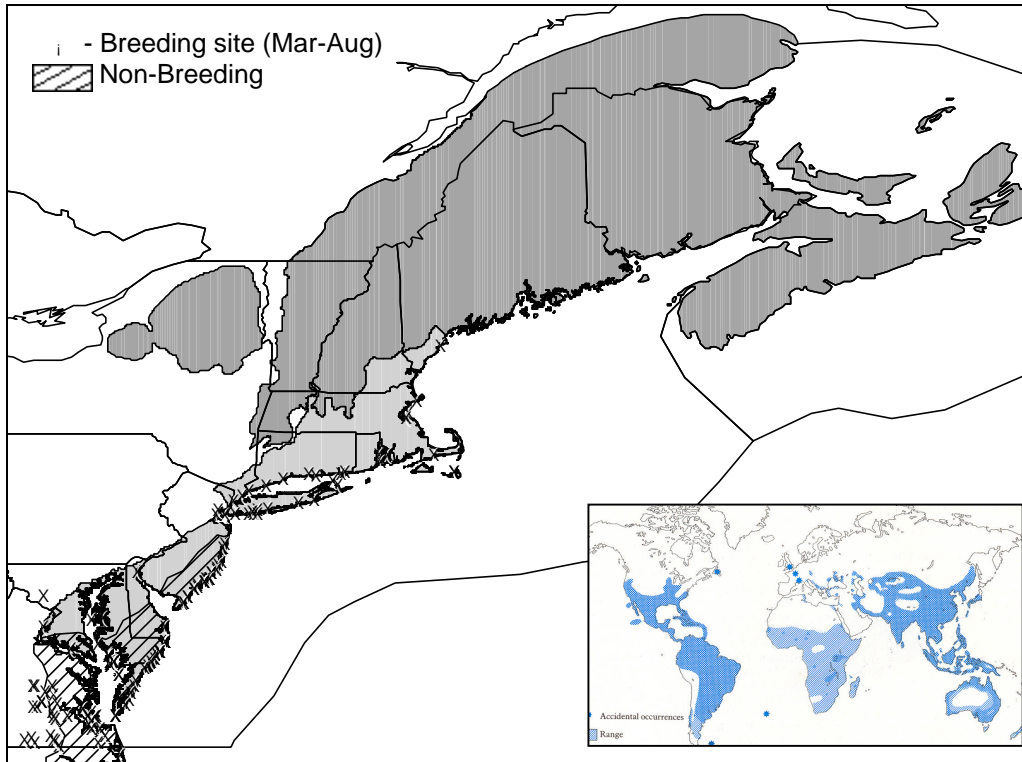


GREAT EGRET

Ardea alba egretta



Regional Occurrence (BCRs 14, 30)

- Distribution: breeds and winters in BCR 30; migrates in BCR 14
- Habitats used: marshes, swampy woods, tidal estuaries, lagoons, mangroves, and along streams; breeding in tall trees

NAWCP BD=?; NAWCP ND=?

Regional Abundance

- 1990s population size: US—8,531 (98 colonies); CAN—0
- 1970s population size: US—4,384 (52 colonies)
- 95% increase in regional population

NAWCP PS=2; NAWCP PT=1

Regional Threats

- Pesticides/chemical contamination causes eggshell thinning and loss
- Major factor for decline is reduction in quantity and quality of foraging and nesting habitat
- Ingestion of mercury resulting in reduced survival and impaired reproduction

NAWCP TB=2; NAWCP TN=2

Conservation Status: Abundance (b=breeding, nb=nonbreeding, t=total individuals) and Conservation Rank

Global	North America	BCR 14	BCR 30	Mid-Atlantic	S. New England	Gulf of Maine	Maritimes
>736,100 – 1,820,600t	>180,000b	0b	8,531b	7,607b	818b	106b	0b
IUCN- Not Evaluated	NAWCP- Not currently at risk (PI=30-73%)	Not at risk (PI=0%)	Not at risk (PI=5%)	NJ- S4B; DE-S1B MD-S4B; VA-S2B, S3N	NY-S2; CT-S1B, SZN RI- S1B, SZN; MA-S1; VT-S2N	MA-S1; NH-SZN; ME-S1?B; NB, NS- no info	QC-S3; PE- no info NB, NS- no info

Conservation Needs: *Sustainability:* 2.9 chicks / nest; *Commuting Range:* Typically forages < 10 km from colony; Opportunistic feeders; feeds in wide variety of wetland habitats; marshes, swamps, streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, impoundments, lagoons, tidal flats, canals, ditches, fish-rearing ponds. Also in flooded agricultural fields and upland habitats. Shallow water near shore but also on shore or dry habitats. Water about 28 cm deep. Habitat affected by tides and water levels.; *Issues:* Populations respond well to the protection of nesting and foraging sites and the restoration of wetland habitats. Monitoring of nesting colonies across various regions is important to determine population status; *Needs:* monitor, potential indicator for estuarine mercury contamination; *Population Goals:* maintain (above minimum), target 7,700-9,500b; *Habitat Goals:*